



CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD

# NEWS Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **National Guard Troops Augmenting Security at California Airports**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California National Guard (CNG) troops reported for duty today at four airports throughout the state in response to Governor Schwarzenegger's order to augment airport security.

National Guard troops are providing support to San Francisco, San Diego, Los Angeles and Ontario airports.

Troops will not be performing missions at the Oakland airport. National Guard personnel originally destined for Oakland will remain on duty to support potential deployments to other category one airports (those with more than 2 million passengers a year).

Orange County airport has recently requested support and forces are scheduled to arrive there late this evening.

Sacramento airport has determined they do not require assistance at this time, and California's remaining category one airports, San Jose and Burbank, are currently assessing their security requirements. The Guard will deploy to those airports if they make the determination that troops are needed.

Current troop levels on shift at each airport are as follows: San Francisco: 110, San Diego: 90, Los Angeles: 230, Ontario: 30, Orange County: 30(projected). These figures represent the approximate number of Guardsmen assigned to each airport. The exact number on shift at any given time will vary between airports.

Additional troops are also on duty to at various locations to provide mission support in the areas of command and control, logistics, and administration. The total number of National Guard troops currently assigned to this mission is 630.

The specific missions for the National Guard differ between airports but have included secondary security screening and perimeter security patrols. National Guard commanders, working in conjunction with the Transportation Security Administration and other airport security officials, determine the specific requirements for security augmentation at each supported airport.

The National Guard is acting in a support role to the civilian authorities to address the increased security requirements resulting from the heightened terrorist threat level. The National Guard's mission tasking for this operation are generated by the Governor's Offices of Homeland Security after consultation with airport security officials.

California National Guard soldiers present a clear deterrent and enhance the ability of these agencies to address the additional security measures required by the elevated threat level. This deployment is not impacting the Guard's support to the border mission, or its ability to provide troops in support of the Global War on Terror. The CNG also maintains a robust capability to respond to other potential emergencies within the state.

The CNG has previously augmented security at California's airports following the attacks on September 11, 2001. From October, 2001 to May, 2002 the CNG had approximately 800 Soldiers and Airmen on duty at 19 California airports. The mission was called Joint Task Force Aerosafe and was part of the nationwide Operation Noble Eagle.